

U.S. PTO Customer No. 25280

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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A method for cleaning a textile substrate, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a soiled textile substrate;
- (b) applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition to at least a portion of said soiled textile substrate, wherein said liquid cleaning composition ~~is comprised~~ consists essentially of:
  - (i) less than about 75 parts by weight of at least one absorbent particulate selected from the group consisting of a urea formaldehyde polymeric material, polyurethane, polystyrene, phenol-formaldehyde resin particles, water insoluble inorganic salt adjuvants, cellulosic particles, diatomaceous earth particles, wood particles, particles made from grains and other vegetable matter, cellulosic particles, inorganic particles and mixtures thereof, wherein said absorbent particulate has an average particle size of from about 10 to about 300 microns in diameter and an oil absorption value of at least 40;
  - (ii) at least 35 parts water, wherein said water contains a surfactant sufficient to provide a surface tension of less than about 40 dynes per centimeter; and
  - (iii) from about 0.01 to about 50 parts by weight of a dispersion stabilizing agent selected from the group consisting of air, cellulosic polymers, starches, clay compounds, xanthan gums, polyacrylic acids and esters, polyacrylamide, polyvinyl alcohol and mixtures thereof, wherein said dispersion stabilizing agent is present in an amount sufficient to produce a stable or easily redispersed dispersion; and
- (c) agitating said liquid cleaning composition to produce a composite material comprised of said liquid cleaning composition and soil particles removed from said soiled textile substrate;
- (d) allowing said composite material to dry; and
- (e) removing said composite material from said textile substrate.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step (b) of applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition comprises spraying said liquid cleaning

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composition onto said soiled textile substrate using a trigger, pump, or electrical sprayer, wherein said electrical sprayer is battery or power operated.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step (b) of applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition comprises dispensing said liquid cleaning composition onto said soiled textile substrate from a packaging container, wherein the interior volume of said packaging container is less than about one gallon.
4. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein said packaging container includes a removable cap for dispensing the liquid cleaning composition.
5. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein said packaging container has a synthetic applicator tip at one end of said packaging container.
6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein said synthetic applicator tip includes an opening for dispensing said cleaning composition.
7. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein said synthetic applicator tip is comprised of synthetic bristles or foam.
8. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step (b) of applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition comprises dispensing said liquid composition onto said soiled textile substrate using a carpet cleaning machine.
9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said soiled textile substrate is a carpet.
10. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said soiled textile substrate is an upholstery fabric.
11. (currently amended) A method for cleaning a textile substrate, said method comprising the steps of:
  - (a) providing a soiled textile substrate;
  - (b) applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition to at least a

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portion of said soiled textile substrate, wherein said liquid cleaning composition ~~is comprised~~ consists essentially of:

- (i) less than about 75 parts by weight of at least one absorbent particulate selected from the group consisting of a urea formaldehyde polymeric material, polyurethane, polystyrene, phenol-formaldehyde resin particles, water insoluble inorganic salt adjuvants, cellulosic particles, diatomaceous earth particles, wood particles, particles made from grains and other vegetable matter, cellulosic particles, inorganic particles and mixtures thereof, wherein said absorbent particulate has an average particle size of from about 10 to about 300 microns in diameter and an oil absorption value of at least 40;
- (ii) at least 35 parts water, wherein said water contains a surfactant sufficient to provide a surface tension of less than about 40 dynes per centimeter;
- (iii) from about 0.01 to about 50 parts by weight of a dispersion stabilizing agent selected from the group consisting of air, cellulosic polymers, starches, clay compounds, xanthan gums, polyacrylic acids and esters, polyacrylamide, polyvinyl alcohol and mixtures thereof, wherein said dispersion stabilizing agent is present in an amount sufficient to produce a stable or easily redispersed dispersion; and
- (iv) from about 0.01 to about 50 parts by weight of a vacuum retrieval additive selected from the group consisting of polyoxyalkylene materials, aluminum silicate clay, hydrolyzed styrene maleic anhydride, and mixtures thereof; and
- (c) agitating said liquid cleaning composition to produce a composite material comprised of said liquid cleaning composition and soil particles removed from said soiled textile substrate;
- (d) allowing said composite material to dry; and
- (e) removing said composite material from said textile substrate.

12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein said step (b) of applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition comprises spraying said liquid cleaning composition onto said soiled textile substrate using a trigger, pump, or electrical sprayer, wherein said electrical sprayer is battery or power operated.

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13. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein said step (b) of applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition comprises dispensing said liquid cleaning composition onto said soiled textile substrate from a packaging container, wherein the interior volume of said packaging container is less than about one gallon.
14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein said packaging container includes a removable cap for dispensing the liquid cleaning composition.
15. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein said packaging container has a synthetic applicator tip at one end of said packaging container.
16. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein said synthetic applicator tip includes an opening for dispensing said cleaning composition.
17. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein said synthetic applicator tip is comprised of synthetic bristles or foam.
18. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein said step (b) of applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition comprises dispensing said liquid composition onto said soiled textile substrate using a carpet cleaning machine.
19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein said soiled textile substrate is a carpet.
20. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein said soiled textile substrate is an upholstery fabric.
21. (currently amended) A method for cleaning a textile substrate, said method comprising the steps of:
- (a) providing a soiled textile substrate;
  - (b) applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition to at least a portion of said soiled textile substrate, wherein said liquid cleaning composition ~~is comprised~~ consists essentially of:
    - (i) less than about 75 parts by weight of at least one absorbent particulate selected from the group consisting of a urea formaldehyde polymeric material,

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polyurethane, polystyrene, phenol-formaldehyde resin particles, water insoluable inorganic salt adjuvants, cellulosic particles, diatomaceous earth particles, wood particles, particles made from grains and other vegetable matter, cellulosic particles, inorganic particles and mixtures thereof, wherein said absorbent particulate has an average particle size of from about 10 to about 300 microns in diameter and an oil absorption value of at least 40;

- (ii) at least 35 parts water, wherein said water contains a surfactant sufficient to provide a surface tension of less than about 40 dynes per centimeter; and
- (iii) from about 0.01 to about 50 parts by weight of a dispersion stabilizing agent selected from the group consisting of air, cellulosic polymers, starches, clay compounds, xanthan gums, polyacrylic acids and esters, polyacrylamide, polyvinyl alcohol and mixtures thereof, wherein said dispersion stabilizing agent is present in an amount sufficient to produce a stable or easily redispersed dispersion;
- (iv) from about 0.01 to about 50 parts by weight of a vacuum retrieval additive selected from the group consisting of polyoxyalkylene materials, aluminum silicate clay, hydrolyzed styrene maleic anhydride, and mixtures thereof; and
- (v) from about 0.01 to about 50 parts by weight of an organic liquid selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>4</sub> aliphatic alcohols, high boiling hydrocarbon solvents, and mixtures thereof; and
- (c) agitating said liquid cleaning composition to produce a composite material comprised of said liquid cleaning composition and soil particles removed from said soiled textile substrate;
- (d) allowing said composite material to dry; and
- (e) removing said composite material from said textile substrate.

22. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein said step (b) of applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition comprises spraying said liquid cleaning composition onto said soiled textile substrate using a trigger, pump, or electrical sprayer, wherein said electrical sprayer is battery or power operated.

23. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein said step (b) of applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition comprises dispensing said liquid cleaning

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composition onto said soiled textile substrate from a packaging container, wherein the interior volume of said packaging container is less than about one gallon.

24. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein said packaging container includes a removable cap for dispensing the liquid cleaning composition.

25. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein said packaging container has a synthetic applicator tip at one end of said packaging container.

26. (original) The method of claim 25, wherein said synthetic applicator tip includes an opening for dispensing said cleaning composition.

27. (original) The method of claim 25, wherein said synthetic applicator tip is comprised of synthetic bristles or foam.

28. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein said step (b) of applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition comprises dispensing said liquid composition onto said soiled textile substrate using a carpet cleaning machine.

29. (original) The method of claim 28, wherein said soiled textile substrate is a carpet.

30. (original) The method of claim 28, wherein said soiled textile substrate is an upholstery fabric.

31. (currently amended) A method for cleaning a textile substrate, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a soiled textile substrate;
- (b) applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition to at least a portion of said soiled textile substrate, wherein said liquid cleaning composition ~~is comprised~~ consists essentially of:
  - (i) less than about 75 parts by weight of at least one absorbent particulate selected from the group consisting of a urea formaldehyde polymeric material, polyurethane, polystyrene, phenol-formaldehyde resin particles, water insoluble inorganic salt adjuvants, cellulosic particles, diatomaceous earth

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particles, wood particles, particles made from grains and other vegetable matter, cellulosic particles, inorganic particles and mixtures thereof, wherein said absorbent particulate has an average particle size of from about 10 to about 300 microns in diameter and an oil absorption value of at least 40;

(ii) at least 35 parts water, wherein said water contains a surfactant sufficient to provide a surface tension of less than about 40 dynes per centimeter;

(iii) from about 0.01 to about 50 parts by weight of a dispersion stabilizing agent selected from the group consisting of air, cellulosic polymers, starches, clay compounds, xanthan gums, polyacrylic acids and esters, polyacrylamide, polyvinyl alcohol and mixtures thereof, wherein said dispersion stabilizing agent is present in an amount sufficient to produce a stable or easily redispersed dispersion; and

(iv) from about 0.01 to about 50 parts by weight of an acrylic stain resist agent; and

(c) agitating said liquid cleaning composition to produce a composite material comprised of said liquid cleaning composition and soil particles removed from said soiled textile substrate;

(d) allowing said composite material to dry; and

(e) removing said composite material from said textile substrate.

32. (original) The method of claim 31, wherein said step (b) of applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition comprises spraying said liquid cleaning composition onto said soiled textile substrate using a trigger, pump, or electrical sprayer, wherein said electrical sprayer is battery or power operated.

33. (original) The method of claim 31, wherein said step (b) of applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition comprises dispensing said liquid cleaning composition onto said soiled textile substrate from a packaging container, wherein the interior volume of said packaging container is less than about one gallon.

34. (original) The method of claim 33, wherein said packaging container includes a removable cap for dispensing the liquid cleaning composition.

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35. (original) The method of claim 33, wherein said packaging container has a synthetic applicator tip at one end of said packaging container.
36. (original) The method of claim 35, wherein said synthetic applicator tip includes an opening for dispensing said cleaning composition.
37. (original) The method of claim 35, wherein said synthetic applicator tip is comprised of synthetic bristles or foam.
38. (original) The method of claim 31, wherein said step (b) of applying an effective amount of a liquid cleaning composition comprises dispensing said liquid composition onto said soiled textile substrate using a carpet cleaning machine.
39. (original) The method of claim 38, wherein said soiled textile substrate is a carpet.
40. (original) The method of claim 38, wherein said soiled textile substrate is an upholstery fabric.
41. (currently amended) A system for cleaning a textile substrate, said system comprising:
- (a) a packaging container, wherein said packaging container includes
    - (i) a removable cap at one end of said packaging container;
    - (ii) an applicator tip attached to said removable cap;
    - (iii) a scrubbing mechanism attached to said applicator tip; and
    - (iv) an interior volume of less than about one gallon; and
  - (b) a liquid cleaning composition within said packaging container, wherein said cleaning composition comprises consists essentially of:
    - (i) less than about 75 parts by weight of at least one absorbent particulate selected from the group consisting of a urea formaldehyde polymeric material, polyurethane, polystyrene, phenol-formaldehyde resin particles, water insoluble inorganic salt adjuvants, cellulosic particles, diatomaceous earth particles, wood particles, particles made from grains and other vegetable matter, cellulosic particles, inorganic particles and mixtures thereof, wherein said



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absorbent particulate has an average particle size of from about 10 to about 300 microns in diameter and an oil absorption value of at least 40;

- (ii) at least 35 parts water, wherein said water contains a surfactant sufficient to provide a surface tension of less than about 40 dynes per centimeter; and
- (iii) from about 0.01 to about 50 parts by weight of a dispersion stabilizing agent selected from the group consisting of air, cellulosic polymers, starches, clay compounds, xanthan gums, polyacrylic acids and esters, polyacrylamide, polyvinyl alcohol and mixtures thereof, wherein said dispersion stabilizing agent is present in an amount sufficient to produce a stable or easily redispersed dispersion; and

wherein said liquid cleaning composition is easily dispensed onto a textile substrate from within said packaging container through said opening of said packaging container.

42. (original) The system of claim 41, wherein said scrubbing mechanism is a plurality of synthetic bristles extending outward from said applicator tip.

43. (original) The system of claim 41, wherein said scrubbing mechanism is a foam material.

44. (original) The system of claim 41, wherein said textile substrate is a carpet.

45. (original) The system of claim 41, wherein said textile substrate is a fabric.

46. (original) The system of claim 45, wherein said fabric is an upholstery fabric.